

Reply to Final Office Action of June 15, 2005
Suppl. Amendment Dated: October 14, 2005

Appl. No.: 09/924,722
Attorney Docket No.: CSCO-009/4342

Cancelled
Claim 14 (Original):

1 Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The first end system of claim 10, further
2 comprising:
3 sending another plurality of loopback command packets at a sending frequency; and
4 comparing said sending frequency with said receive frequency, wherein said first
5 end system determines not to send new loopback command packets based on said
6 comparing.

1 Claim 16 (Original): The first end system of claim 15, wherein said memory
2 continues to indicate that said bi-directional virtual circuit is operational if said sending
3 frequency is less than said receiving frequency.

1 Claim 17 (Original): The first end system of claim 15, wherein said first end system
2 waits a random amount of time before stopping sending new loopback command packet
3 if said sending frequency is at least approximately equal to said receive frequency.

1 Claim 18 (Original): The first end system of claim 10, wherein each of said first end
2 system and said another end system comprises an edge router.

1 Claim 19 (Original): The first end system of claim 10, wherein said memory stores
2 a virtual circuit (VC) table, wherein said VC table stores data indicating whether said bi-
3 directional virtual circuit is operational.

1 Claim 20 (Original): The first end system of claim 10, wherein data packets are
2 transmitted on said bi-directional virtual circuit only if said memory indicates that said bi-
3 directional virtual circuit is operational.